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Efforts along this line offer a promising field for the work of the committee during the ensuing year.

Owing to the increasing interest in statistical research on the part of business concerns, it is the belief of the committee that it should not attempt to cover the entire field of business statistics, but should be known as "The Committee on Business and Production Indices," and a change of title of the committee in accordance with this suggestion is recommended.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

The report of the Nominating Committee, consisting of Edmund E. Day, Chairman, Joseph A. Hill and N. I. Stone, was presented for final action. The Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the nominations as presented. The following officers for the year 1921 were declared elected: President, Carroll W. Doten; Vice Presidents, Ernest S. Bradford, Louis I. Dublin, William M. Steuart; Counsellors, Raymond Pearl, Warren M. Persons, Malcolm C. Rorty; Secretary-Treasurer, Robert E. Chaddock; Librarian, Horace L. Wheeler; Editor, William F. Ogburn.

CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Association voted to amend by-law two in such a manner as to read, "Each regular member shall pay annual dues of *five dollars*, or *fifty dollars* at some one time, each fellow shall pay annual dues of five dollars, or fifty dollars at some one time, and each corporate member shall pay annual dues of one hundred dollars."

The Association voted to appropriate \$600, as provided last year, for securing assistance in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Association referred to the Board with power the matter of change in the rate of subscription to the Quarterly Publications and of the time when such rate should be made effective.

The Board was instructed to make investigation as to cost of printing our publication and all possible means of reducing printing expenses.

The matter of providing appropriate organization to meet the needs of business statisticians in their fields of research was discussed informally and left to the Board to work out, under the power given by the by-laws, section three, to organize Committees.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK,
Secretary.

THE CENSUS OF THE ITALIAN POPULATION FOR 1921

In all of the ex-belligerent nations the first census to be taken after the declaration of peace will be of the greatest importance as it will make known, with exactness, the great changes in population caused by the war. But in Italy the next census assumes a special importance because it consecrates the completion of Italian National Unity in the annexation of lands which for centuries have been dear to every Italian heart. The Superior Council of Statistics, at the meetings held from November 20 to 24, defined the regulations according to which this census shall be conducted. It will be started December 1, 1921, and this date will be kept thereafter for future censuses, which will follow at intervals of ten years.

This census will be a purely demographic one for ascertaining the population only. The combining of such a census with that of the industrial census in 1911 did not bring good results; it was therefore deemed advisable by the Supreme Council to

eliminate therefrom the industrial census. In consequence of this decision, other censuses probably will be taken (industrial properties, habitations, etc.) so as to furnish continuous work for the census office, which will thus become a permanent institution instead of a provisional arrangement as in the past. The possibility of economy by the use of calculating machines has suggested the abandonment of the *system of individual bulletins for the family schedule*. These will probably be done by the Powers machine.

The questions to be asked on this family schedule have not been formulated definitely as yet. At the session of the Superior Council of Statistics a permanent committee was appointed, consisting of Professors Benini, Gini, and Montaro, the Hon. Beneduce, and Dr. Aschiari, directors of the Central Office of Statistics. One of the duties of this committee will be the preparation of the family schedule. The Superior Council will have the final decision, however.

Questions concerning the sick (blindness and deafness) will be omitted, and the gathering of data about the killed in war, the mutilated, the decorated, etc., will be taken care of in the special statistics soon to be prepared by the Minister of War. In place of these questions, a new one will be introduced regarding the number of children borne by each mother, and the date of birth of the first child. The schedule will also include a question concerning the use of the Italian language in the homes of the people. If this question is answered in the affirmative, the reply must be made in the Italian language. This last question has been adopted in order to determine with exactness the number of the population speaking a foreign language within the boundaries of the country.

There will be several other specific questions. The one concerning literacy will ascertain not only whether a person can read, but also what studies he has completed. A person will be asked in what religion he was reared and what religion, if any, he professes then. With this new questionnaire not only persons regularly married (civil and religious) will be recorded, but also those married only by the religious ceremony, as well as those of Common Law unions. These questions are deemed advisable because of the increasing number of these Common Law marriages permitted as legal during the war. It was also considered important by the Council that the census should be furnished with a classification of the professions which would serve as a reliable guide to the people, and would secure uniformity for the judges who direct them.

The Superior Council, in closing, voted that contemporaneously with the population census of the kingdom a census of the colonies (Tripoli, Cirenaica, Eritrea, Somalia) should also be taken, as well as one of all Italians residing in foreign lands. In the accomplishment of this last, two methods will be resorted to: (1) Assistance will be asked of the consular authorities, commercial agencies, emigration inspectors, and coöperative Italian societies in foreign countries; and (2) census enumerators will obtain from the inhabitants of the kingdom the names of their relatives residing in other countries. These and other points of interest will be considered at future meetings of the Supreme Council. The date of the next meeting was to be announced by the first of January, 1921.

C. GINI.

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE

Of considerable interest to the members of the American Statistical Association are the announcements that have recently come to America of the activities and publications of the International Labor Office of the League of Nations whose headquarters